



i-Bulletin CopeMed II

Events

The CopeMed II Coordination Committee supports the revision of the the “Pilot Plan to the small pelagic fisheries in the Alboran Sea”

During the **1st Forum of COPEMED on fisheries in the Mediterranean** (Madrid, Spain, 23-25 July 2003) was presented a pilot plan for the small pelagic fisheries in the Alboran Sea, with the participation of Morocco, Algeria and Spain. During this Forum a first outline was presented of the possible pilot scheme for the common management of small pelagic in the Alboran Sea to consider the sub-region as one of the most appropriate to launch a common action that engages the involved parties (Administration, Industry and Research) in the three countries.

Likewise, among the recommendations of the Forum it was included one expressly referred to the matter and which identified the advisability of its implementation, as it would represent:

- a) **a step between the involvement of professionals, scientists and managers in the practical application of management measures;**
- b) **a demonstration that a concerted international fisheries management may be possible.**

The CopeMed II Coordination Committee met in Tangier (Morocco, 18-19 June 2009) and adopted new Terms of Reference to update the actions carried out during COPEMED phase 1 and to activate the consultation process between experts and administrations of the three involved countries.

Regarding the activities proposed for the Alboran Sea on small pelagic fisheries management, the Committee agreed to continue this project. The representative of Morocco, while agreeing with these activities, stressed the importance of having activities involving management rather than restricted only to classic fish stock assessment. He also informed the meeting that INRH is carrying out a study on the interactions of marine mammals and small pelagic fish, the results of which will be made available to all the countries through the Project.

The Terms of Reference include the following items:

In collaboration with the Project Coordinator and the experts nominated to this task by each country (Algeria, Morocco and Spain), a consultant will carry out the following tasks:

1. Review the national (and international if any) small pelagic fisheries in the Alboran Sea indicating fleets, captures and revenues during the last 5 years.
2. Prepare a Table containing the main strengths and weakness of the national fisheries.
3. Review and update the information included in the document prepared during the Project Phase I “Reflexions concernant l’etude de faisabilite d’un eventuel plan pilote sur les pecheries des petits pelagiques dans la mer d’Alboran”
4. Review and update the objective of the previous document and propose new objectives if convenient.



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5. Prepare a rapport that should include at least the following contents:
 - a. The small pelagic situation in each country (Alboran sea area)
 - b. Small pelagic from the Alboran Sea assessment and other documents presented by country/species to the GFCM during the period 200-2009
 - c. State of the stocks according the GFCM or national assessments
 - d. Elements to be considered to reactivate the Pilot Plan
 - e. Recommendations
6. Help the Project in the Organization and coordinate and animate an *ad hoc* meeting (during 2009 or 2010) between experts from the three countries to discuss the revised Pilot Plan.

To carry out this activity the Consultant will review the existing information in the project headquarters (Malaga, Spain) and the national information and the documents in the GFCM repertory (Working groups and SCs meeting reports) presented by the three countries to the GFCM during the period 200-2009 corresponding all the small pelagic species and the Geographical Sub Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4.

The Committee stressed that the full achievement of the results will depend on the involvement of the research institutions from the three countries and the support of the fisheries administrations. For more information on CopeMed II activities related with this issue visit the project Web site.

End of the 2nd Coordination Committee of CopeMed II. Tangier, Morocco 18-19 June 2009

During the 18 and 19 of June was celebrated the second Coordination Committee of CopeMed II in Tangier (Morocco) an ancient city in the Gibraltar Strait.

Mr. Mohamed Tarmidi, General Secretary for Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries chaired the opening session and welcomed the participants recalling the important activities in Morocco and the western and central Mediterranean carried out by CopeMed phase I, and the importance of the new phase for the Mediterranean fisheries management.

The meeting was attended by representatives of one of the two Donor (Secretaría del Mar, Spain), delegations from the countries participating in the Project (Algeria, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta Morocco, Tunisia and Spain), the Deputy Executive Secretary of the GFCM Mr. Abdellah Srour, the FAO Fisheries Management and Conservation Service Chief Mr. Kevern Cochrane, the FAORNE (Cairo Office) Fisheries responsible Mr. Piero Mannini, the former Director of COPEMED phase I Rafael Robles, Officers from the FAO AdriaMed and MedSudMed Projects as well as the two officers from CopeMed II Project. The representatives from France and SAC Chairman Mr. Henri Farrugio, the EU, AECID and ICCAT sent their apologies for not participating given previous compromises.

Activities carried out during the last year under the umbrella of CopeMed II and the new pilot project ArtFiMed (Artisanal fisheries in Morocco and Tunisia), coordinated also by CopeMed II, were presented and discussed. A proposal of priority activities for both projects were presented and adopted by the meeting.

During this second coordination meeting CopeMed II members were informed by the donor representative Mr. Sebastian Fraile that the Spanish Government continues supporting CopeMed II and is analysing the extension of this support by increasing the budget to facilitate the Project to



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accomplish their several obligations with the countries in the belief that this will facilitate further scientific cooperation in the Mediterranean, bring sizeable benefits to fisheries management in the region.

The Moroccan INRH complimented the participants with a nice dinner celebrated in one of the oldest hotels in Tangier seated in front of the sea. Participants enjoyed the extraordinary Moroccan cuisine and traditional music and Moroccan dancing.

Announcing the 3rd Coordination Committee meeting.

At the end of the 2nd CopeMed II coordination meeting, the representative from Tunisia and Director General of the INSTM (Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer), Dr. Ridha Mrabet offered to host the 3rd Coordination meeting in his country in May-June 2010. Place and dates will be announced in due time.

2nd Coordination meeting Photo Gallery



2nd CopeMed II Coordination Committee meeting. Opening: from left to right: S Fraile (Spain), A. Srour (GFCM); A. Berraho (INRH); M. Tarmidi (Fisheries Ministry from Morocco); J A Camiñas (CopeMed II) and K. Cochrane (FAO-FIMF)



Participants at the 2nd CopeMed II Coordination Committee meeting. Tangier (Morocco), 18-19 June 2009

Briefs

- **ACCOBAMS contacts CopeMed II.** ACCOBAMS (www.accobams.org) proposed CopeMed II to participate in the project **Assessment and mitigation of cetacean – fishery interactions along the southern shores of the Mediterranean (Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia)**. The project is discussing with the Project' members and ACCOBAMS.

- **GFCM transversal Workshop on Logbooks.** To participate at the GFCM transversal Workshop on Logbooks (Rome, 29 June.1 July), CopeMed II is supporting the participation of Mr. Mohamed TAHI from the Fisheries Ministry in Morocco and Mr. Mehrez BESTA from the General Fisheries Direction in Tunisia.